

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

People live in the world want to more dominant than others. To get it, they need a power. Power is a measurement of an ability to control environment, including the behavior of other person. People who have more power will get more authority to influence his subordinate. Because of that, people compete with each other to get more power. People who are addicted by power will develop their insatiable desire to get more power. In this condition, people will be no more aware with their environment, even their own family. The will do anything to grafity their heart content. For example, there are some goverment people who do a corruption to get amount of money to increase their social status and social class. They do not care that the money which is corrupted belong to citizenry.

In the world of literature, there are many writers who apply several aspects of conflict in greed for power in their works. One of them is William Shakespeare. William Shakespeare (baptised 26 April 1564, and died 23 April 1616) was an English poet and playwright that widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world`s pre-eminent dramatist. Shakespeare was born and raised in Stratford-upon-Avon. At the age of 18, he married Anne Hathaway, and had three children. Between 1585 and 1592, he began successful career in London as an actor and writer.

His surviving works, including some collaborations, consist of about 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, and several other poems. His famous tragedy drama are *Hamlet*, *Julius Caesar*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Julliet*, *King Lear* and many others.

One of the greatest Shakespeare work is *King Lear* that first recorded performance of *King Lear* was on 1606 December 26. This dramaceos popular in Queen Elizabeth era and written in English language. The play was written between 1603 and 1606 and later revised. Shakespeare's earlier version, *The True Chronicle of the History of the Life and Death of King Lear and His Three Daughters*, was published in quarto in 1608. *The Tragedy of King Lear*, a more theatrical version, was included in the 1623 First Folio. After the Restoration, the play was often revised with a happy ending for audiences who disliked its dark and depressing tone, but since the 19th century Shakespeare's original version has been regarded as one of his supreme achievements. The tragedy is particularly noted for probing observations on the nature of human suffering and kinship.

King Lear is a drama about King Lear, who is elderly, wants to retire from power. He decides to divide his realm among his three daughters, and offers the largest share to the one who loves him best. Goneril and Regan both proclaim in fulsome terms that they love him more than anything in the world, which pleases him. For Cordelia, there is nothing to compare her love to her father, no words can properly express her feeling, she speaks honestly but bluntly, which infuriates him. In his anger he disinherits her,

and divides the kingdom between Regan and Goneril. King Lear is tricked by Goneril and Regan, two of his daughters who have an ambition to take over his kingdom.

Then, this betrayal brings another misfortune. Edmund, illegitimate son of Gloucester, makes the situation worse. Edmund resents his illegitimate status, and plots to supplant his legitimate older brother Edgar. He tricks their father Gloucester with a forged letter, making him think Edgar plans to betray him. Edmund is so greedy, and wants to control the Britain and be a new King. So, he uses Goneril and Regan to fulfill his ambition. In the end, most of the characters come to the death. Goneril and Regan kill each other to get Edmund's love, Gloucester dies from the overwhelming shock and joy of Edgar's revelation, Cordelia and King Lear also die.

King Lear is an interesting drama, there are four aspects that make this drama really interesting. The first is *King Lear* play is based on the legend of Leir of Britain. It is also the most precious drama that is favorited by Queen Elizabeth.

The second aspect is the character and characterization. This drama has two kinds of character there are major characters and minor characters. The major character is King Lear, a king and a father who has a tragic life because of his daughters' greed for power.

The third aspect is the theme of this drama. The theme in this drama is greed for power can bring misfortune to one and others. King Lear's daughters, Goneril and Regan, betray their father after they get their share

kingdom. And Edmund betrays his father and brother to fulfil his desire. Their action to get some power make other people around them suffering. Not only their close family get bad destiny, but also themselves get bad ending.

The fourth and the last aspect is the greed for power can be studied by using psychoanalytic approach. Psychoanalysis is a study of human's behavior which focuses on the personality of human being. In this paper, the writer will analyze the personality of Edmund, Goneril and Regan as the evil character in the *King Lear* drama.

Based on the reasons, the writer will study *King Lear* drama by using a psychoanalytic approach. So the writer constructs the title **GREED FOR POWER IN WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S *KING LEAR* DRAMA (1606): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

There are some literature reviews dealing with this research. First is by Novrika Mualvira Sandry, a student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta (2009), who writes a paper entitled "*Conflict of Interest in William Shakespeare's King Lear*". She uses a sociological approach to analyze the data. The paper elaborates conflict of interest in William Shakespeare's drama script, *King Lear*, that are analyzed through a sociological approach. The objectives of the research are to analyze the structural elements of the script and to analyze the drama based on

sociological perspective by identifying the relationship between the script and the social background of English society in the sixteenth century.

Second is by Nila Emaniarti, also a student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta (2010), who writes a paper entitled “*Material Orientation in Shakespeare’s King Lear (1606)*”. She uses a marxist perspective to analyze the data. The aim of the study is to find how material orientation is reflected in *King Lear* written by Shakespeare in 1606. The objective of the study is to analyze the structural elements in the play and to analyze the material orientation of the play based on Marxist perspective.

Third is by Nur Huda, a student of Ahmad Dahlan University of Yogyakarta (2005), who writes a paper entitled “*The Tragic Fate of The Main Character “King Lear” in William Shakespeare’s King Lear: A Psychological Study*”. She is focusing on King Lear’s character, psychological conflict of main character “King Lear” and the tragic fate of the main character “King Lear”. In the study, she uses the psychological approach to analyze the psychological conflict of the main character “King Lear” in William Shakespeare’s *King Lear*.

Fourth is by Janet W. Wall, B. A, a student of Texas Technological College (1961), who writes a thesis entitled “*Natural Order in King Lear*”. In the thesis, she elaborates the orthodox frame work of sixteenth century nature: the conception of the cosmos, of man’s relationship to God and the world, and of social relationship.

From the analyses above, the writer tries to make a different analysis. The writer uses a psychoanalytic approach to analyze the data and using *King Lear* drama as an object. The writer analyzes the greed for power of the characters in William Shakespeare's *King Lear* Drama by using a psychoanalytic approach.

C. Problem Statement

The major problem of the study is how the greed for power is reflected in William Shakespeare's *King Lear* drama.

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses this research in analyzing greed for power of the characters in William Shakespeare's *King Lear* drama based on a psychoanalytic approach.

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem that has been stated above, the writer states the following objectives:

1. Analyzing the play based on its structural elements.
2. Analyzing the play based on the psychoanalytic approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the studies are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study is expected to contribute to the development of the larger body of knowledge, particularly literary studies on William Shakespeare's *King Lear* drama.

2. Practical Benefit

The result of the study is expected to broaden the writer's own comprehension about William Shakespeare's *King Lear* drama.

G. Research Method

1. Type of Research

The writer uses a library research, which employs qualitative method. The writer also applies psychoanalysis of the characters as a means of further research.

2. Object of the Research

The object of the study is William Shakespeare's *King Lear* drama to discuss the greed for power that is reflected in the character's personality.

3. Data Source

There are two types of data sources, namely:

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data is taken from William Shakespeare's *King Lear* drama script.

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data source is taken from other sources, which is related to the primary data such as biography of the playwright, website about the drama, some books of psychology and another data related to this drama.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The methods of collecting data in this research is note-taking, and the steps are:

1. Reading the drama script repeatedly.
2. Taking note of the important part in both primary and secondary data.
3. Identifying the topic of the play.
4. Analyzing the data of the research based on Sigmund Freud's theory.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The writer uses a psychoanalysis approach and applies it by using the descriptive analysis. In addition, the writer also uses the structural analysis of the work. Firstly, the data are arranged in a list of data. Secondly, the researcher is looking for correlation the categories of

elements of literary study using the chosen approach. Thirdly, all data from the second step are arranged. Finally, a conclusion is drawn.

H. Paper Organization

The research paper will be divided into five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction, covering background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, research method and paper organization. Chapter II will be underlying theory, covering notion of Psychoanalysis theory, system of personality, and structure element of drama. Chapter III will be structural analysis, which includes the character and characterization, plot, setting, style and theme. Chapter IV will be Psychoanalysis analysis of the characters chosen by the writer in *King Lear* drama, it presents the application of underlying theory in analyzing the problem consists of structure of personality and greed for power. Chapter V will present conclusion and suggestion for this research paper also the synopsis of the story.